

Message Text

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INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

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ACDA-19 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-14 AGR-20 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 /282 R

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E.O. 11652: N.A.

TAGS: IAEA

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS ON ENERGY MATTERS

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REF: IAEA VIENNA 6993

1. FOLLOWING IS IN RESPONSE TO MISSION'S REQUEST FOR GENERAL GUIDANCE ON (A) POSSIBLE LDC INITIATIVES FOR CREATION OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ENERGY ORGANIZATION UNDER UN AUSPICES, AND (B) EVOLUTION OF THE IAEA INTO AN ENERGY AGENCY WITH PRIMARY INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY IN ALL HIGH TECHNOLOGY ADVANCED ENERGY SYSTEMS, NUCLEAR AND NON-NUCLEAR.

2. DEPT WOULD NOT FAVOR CREATION OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ENERGY ORGANIZATION WITHIN THE UN SYSTEM. PRINCIPAL REASON IS THAT WE SEE NO USEFUL ROLE FOR SUCH AN AGENCY AND CONSIDER THAT ENERGY PROBLEMS CAN BE ADDRESSED BY EXISTING BODIES. COST IS ALSO A VERY IMPORTANT FACTOR. WE ALSO WISH TO AVOID INTERFERENCE WITH IMPORTANT WORK OF ECG, AD HOC GROUPS, AND PROGRESS IN INTEGRATED EMERGENCY PROGRAM FOR OIL SHARING (IEP). IF THERE IS A MAJOR LDC PUSH FOR A SEPARATE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY ORGANIZATION, AND WE DO NOT HAVE A CONCLUSIVE READING THAT SUCH AN INITIATIVE IS UNDERWAY, THE UN AND ITS EXISTING INSTITUTIONS WOULD BE APPROPRIATE PLACES TO ADDRESS QUESTION.

3. FYI: WE ARE NOW DISCUSSING WITHIN ECG QUESTION OF WHERE TO HOUSE OUR CONTINUING ACTIVITY IN THE AREA OF ENERGY COORDINATION, INCLUDING THE INTEGRATED EMERGENCY PROGRAM. WE HAVE AGREED TO EXPLORE THE OPTION OF PLACING ECG FOLLOW-ON IN A NEW AUTONOMOUS AGENCY OF THE OECD. IF THIS SHOULD PROVE UNFEASIBLE OR IMPRACTICAL, WE WOULD PROCEED TO ESTABLISH NEW, PERMANENT ORGANIZATION FOR ECG FOLLOW-ON. END FYI.

4. WITH REGARD TO POSSIBILITY OF EXPANDING THE ROLE OF THE IAEA TO THE NON-NUCLEAR ENERGY FIELD, WE WOULD EXPECT AGENCY TO CONTINUE TO BE ALERT AND INFORMED ON ALL MAJOR ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS. WE WOULD ALSO EXPECT AGENCY TO MAINTAIN AND EXPAND ITS COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, SUCH AS FAO, UNEP, OECD/NEA, UNESCO, UNDP, IBRD, ETC., WHICH ALSO HAVE ENERGY RELATED PROGRAMS. IN KEEPING WITH FOREGOING ACTIVITIES, AND IF OTHER MEMBERS VOICE A STRONG INTEREST, IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR AGENCY AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEMBERS TO STUDY AND DISCUSS POSSIBLE EXPANSION OF ACTIVITIES IN NON-NUCLEAR ENERGY AREAS, EXCLUSIVE OF FOSSIL FUELS. WE WOULD ADVOCATE, HOWEVER, THAT ANY EXPANSION OF IAEA'S ENERGY MANDATE BE TREATED WITH CONSIDERABLE CARE, DELIBERATION, AND EVEN RELUCTANCE. WHILE NUCLEAR ENERGY IS AVAILABLE AS AN ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCE NOW, OTHER TECHNOLOGIES HAVE NOT BEEN DEVELOPED TO THIS POINT. FURTHERMORE, IAEA IS NOW A RELATIVELY WELL RUN, EFFICIENT

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION WITH A FAIRLY PRECISE MANDATE. WITH GROWING LDC INTEREST IN NUCLEAR POWER AND INCREASING IMPORTANCE OF SAFEGUARDS, IT WOULD SEEM IAEA'S CALENDAR FOR THE FUTURE IS REASONABLY FULL. WE WOULD NOT WISH TO SEE IAEA WEAKENED AT THIS TIME.

5. FRG EMBASSY HERE HAS MADE SIMILAR INQUIRY TO WHICH WE HAVE RESPONDED ALONG ABOVE LINES. DEPT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN THE SPECIFICS OF POSSIBLE FRG PROPOSALS AT FORTHCOMING GENERAL CONFERENCE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENERGY, PETROLEUM, LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, NUCLEAR ENERGY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, IEP
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE187399
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: FJGALANTO
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740236-0350
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740817/aaaaaoat.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: IAEA VIENNA 6993
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <16 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS ON ENERGY MATTERS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
TAGS: ENRG, IAEA
To: IAEA VIENNA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005